

Virginia Indian Advisory Board State Recognition Workgroup Meeting Minutes 2.16.22

- Meeting began at 4:00 by Buck Woodard, Chairman
- Present for virtual Web X Meeting
 - Suzanne Holland
 - CJ Sailor
 - Brad Hatch
 - Chief Terry Price
 - David Cornsilk
 - Gregory Smithers
 - Buck Woodard
 - Jenna Moon
 - Nikki Thacker
 - Pam Ross
 - Bill Hurd
 - Julie Langan
 - Workgroup
 - Tori Mabry
 - Gloria Senecal
- Thank you and Introductions by CJ Sailor
- Amending on Meeting Minutes for 1/5/2022
 - Amend Criterion 1
 - Demonstrate the tribe that you are claiming is from Virginia or Has a presence in Virginia. It is based on geography.
 - Amend Criterion 2
 - Change the text that is on the website
 - Unanimous Approval
- Adoption and Amendment of Agenda
 - Discuss criterion 1 only
 - Unanimous Approval
- Discussion of HJ Bill 138 on the Wolf Creek Tribe
 - Nikki Thacker is giving an update on HJ 138 resolution from Del. McQuinn which was tabled
 - Open discussion for questions and comments about HJ Bill 138
 - Why were they not consulted?
 - The Bill has been discussed in previous sessions.
 - Buck Woodard, Chairman, was contacted from an outside group about this Bill. He deferred to VIAB and CJ.
- Discussion of Criterion 1 of the Agenda: Demonstrate descent from a historical Indian group(s) that lived within Virginia's current boundaries at the time of that group's first contact with Europeans
 - It is based more on geography than genealogy.
 - Questioning of the word "lived" in the criterion. Concerns about other nomenclature as well. Gregory Smithers spoke to this matter

- Gregory Smithers focuses on the geography of the Cherokee Tribe. Virginia was considered more of a hunting ground.
 - Many people contested the territory of Virginia
- Buck Woodard asks questions to Brad Hatch about the Archeological evidence in South West Virginia
 - Letter from Jack which mentions “this potter looks like it was from the Wolf Creek Tribe”.
 - There is a mix of evidence.
- Meeting ended at 3:40 due to running out of time on the video platform